



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/710,370	07/06/2004	WEN-TA HUANG	LKSP0048USA	4369

27765 7590 10/05/2005

NORTH AMERICA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 506
MERRIFIELD, VA 22116

EXAMINER

POPOVICS, ROBERT J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1724

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/710,370	Applicant(s) HUANG ET AL.	
	Examiner Robert J. Popovics	Art Unit 1724	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

Art Unit: 1724

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combined teachings of **JP359012715A** and **AAPA (Applicant's Admitted Prior Art)**.

PAT-NO: JP359012715A

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: JP 59012715 A

TITLE: METHOD FOR WASHING FILTER MEDIUM IN HIGH
SPEED FILTER BASIN

PUBN-DATE: January 23, 1984

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:
NAME

ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:
NAME
EBARA INFILCO CO LTD

COUNTRY
N/A

APPL-NO: JP57122206

APPL-DATE: July 15, 1982

INT-CL (IPC): B01D023/24

US-CL-CURRENT: 210/768

ABSTRACT:

PURPOSE: To remove mud balls of a filter basin, by adding an alkali agent and an oxidizing agent in the filter basin to release said mud balls from a filter medium.

CONSTITUTION: Particles with a particle size of 1~3mm are present on the anthracite layer in a filter basin to form a surface layer with a thickness of 100mm and it is difficult to mechanically release the same from a filter medium. Therefore, 1.0wt/vol% caustic soda and 0.15wt/vol% sodium hypochlorite

Art Unit: 1724

are added thereto to stir the filter medium for 24hr by an air washing blower and suspended particles are released from the filter medium to be discharged as fine particles by fluidization washing. Caustic soda may be added in an amount of 1.0~3.0wt/vol% and sodium hypochlorite may be used in an amount of 0.15~0.60wt/vol%. Hydrogen peroxide may be further added in an amount of 0.05~0.30wt/vol%.

COPYRIGHT: (C)1984,JPO&Japio

The claims essentially differ from this Japanese reference by specifying details taught to be known to those skilled in the art by AAPA. See paragraphs [0004] through [0010] of Applicant's Specification & corresponding Figures. It is submitted that it would have been obvious to employ the steps taught by **JP359012715A** into the know prior art systems taught by AAPA, in order to avoid problems associated with "*mud balls*."

Cited Prior Art

The teachings of **JP52143562** are noted:

ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME

SUMITOMO CHEM CO LTD

COUNTRY

N/A

APPL-NO: **JP52143562**

APPL-DATE: November 29, 1977

INT-CL (IPC): C02C005/00

ABSTRACT:

PURPOSE: To prevent the contamination of filtering material and the production of mud balls, by causing slight effective chlorine of specific level or more to remain in a treating system.

Art Unit: 1724

CONSTITUTION: Waste water containing mineral oil or fat oil mainly is filtered by a granular filtering material, thereby separating the oil or sludge containing the oil. At least one of sodium hypochlorite, chlorine and bleaching powder is poured into the inlet port of a filter or the upstream side thereof so that 0.5 mg/l or more of effective chlorine remains at the outlet port of the filter. Thereby, the filter bed is thoroughly purified and regenerated in ordinary operation. As a result, the contamination of the filtering material and the production of mud balls are perfectly prevented. In this case, the concentration of the effective chlorine at the outlet port of the filter is kept at 0.6 to 1.0 mg/l preferably.

COPYRIGHT: (C)1979,JPO&Japio

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Robert J. Popovics at telephone number (571) 272-1164.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert J. Popovics'.

Robert James Popovics
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1724

September 30, 2005